PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | | teres reco, no porcen e are re | Complete if Known | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-----|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| INFO | RMATION | DIS | CLOSURE | Application Number | 10/580,909 | | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | Filing Date | May 30, 2006 | | |
| • | | | | First Named Inventor | Tadashi SAO | | |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | | | |
| (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | necessary) | Examiner Name | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | DK-US040366 | | |

| | | | U.S. PATENT I | DOCUMENTS | | |
|------------|--------------|--|------------------|--|--|--|
| Examiner | Cite No.1 | Document Number | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevan Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| Initials * | | Number - Kind Code ² (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | - 00-100 | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| • | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |

| | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>) | | | Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| | | JP-03-37333-U | 04-11-1991 | Kuboki | | No |
| | | JP-2000-146346-A | 05-26-2000 | Sada | | Yes |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| Examiner Signature | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.